



03-133

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**  
**Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau**  
**Consumer Inquiries and Complaints Division**  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W., Room CY-B523  
Washington, D.C. 20554

JAN 27 2005

In reply refer to:  
IC 05-10143393/kah

Mr. Stephen M. Koper  
National Guard Association of the United States  
One Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20001

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Dear Mr. Koper:

Thank you for your letter addressed to Chairman Michael Powell expressing your opinion regarding an issue pending before the Commission addressing phone cards. The FCC is presently considering a Petition for Declaratory Ruling filed by AT&T seeking a ruling that certain charges do not apply to its "enhanced" prepaid calling cards in WC Docket No. 03-133. Some parties have argued that a ruling by the FCC in this proceeding could affect the rates for such cards.

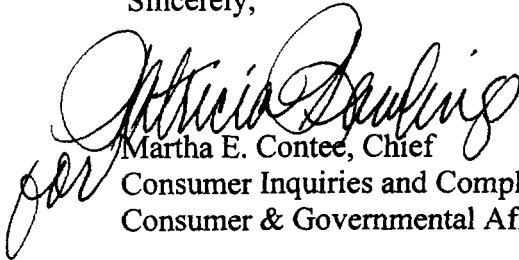
Therefore, it appears that the issues outlined in your correspondence are currently under consideration by the Commission. Once the Commission has taken action in this proceeding, the decision will be available for public inspection on our web site. We invite you to visit the Commission's Home Page located at <http://www.fcc.gov>. From our web site you may monitor the proceeding by accessing information in the Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) and the Electronic Document Management System (EDOCS) databases.

To the extent that you have concerns about this issue, we encourage you to actively participate in proceedings before the Commission to ensure that your opinions are expressed and considered fully. Although the comment period has closed in this proceeding, we have placed a copy of your correspondence in the public record for this proceeding. The Commission has available an e-mail service designed to apprise consumers about developments at the Commission, to disseminate consumer information materials prepared by the Commission to a wide audience and to invite comments from other parties on Commission regulatory proposals. This free service enables consumers to subscribe and receive FCC fact sheets, consumer brochures and alerts, and public notices, among other consumer information. To subscribe, an individual should send an e-mail to [subscribe@info.fcc.gov](mailto:subscribe@info.fcc.gov) and, in either the subject line or the message insert: "subscribe fcc-consumer-info first name last name" (e.g., "subscribe fcc-consumer-info John Doe").

The Commission seeks to inform consumers about their rights regarding common carrier practices that may violate the Communications Act or other federal or state regulations. In determining whether to take enforcement action or other action in any particular situation, the Commission may consider various factors, including the type of violation alleged, economic harm to consumers, and the probability of preventing future unlawful conduct. Letters from consumers provide valuable information that is frequently used to develop or support Commission initiatives for consumers and for enforcement purposes. Information compiled by the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau is shared with the Enforcement Bureau, which may choose to pursue enforcement action against violators. Information compiled by the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau is shared with the Enforcement Bureau, which may choose to pursue enforcement action against violators. We also invite you to visit the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau's Internet web site at <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb>.

We appreciate your inquiry. Please do not hesitate to contact if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Martha E. Contee".

Martha E. Contee, Chief  
Consumer Inquiries and Complaints Division  
Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau



RECEIVED & INSPECTED

DEC 27 2004

FCC - MAILROOM

NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES

ONE MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, NORTHWEST • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001 • (202) 789-0031 • FAX (202) 682-9358

03-133

December 15, 2004

The Honorable Michael Powell  
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

The National Guard Association of the United States has been made aware of an issue that will negatively affect our military servicemembers and their families. We need your assistance to prevent this from happening.

It is my understanding that a proposed regulation would impose new charges and fees on enhanced pre-paid calling cards. Our military men and women use calling cards to keep in contact with their families. They depend on this affordable means of communication with home. Increasing the rates may mean fewer precious minutes spent saying, "I love you," to a spouse, a child, or a parent. It is unconscionable to increase rates to those fighting and dying for our country, right now.

Please defeat the proposed new regulations that would impose new charges and fees on enhanced pre-paid calling cards. Our military members deserve no less.

Sincerely,

Stephen M. Koper  
Brigadier General (Ret.), USAF  
President